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MASTER OF  
CEREMONIES:

As we come to the close of the Silver Anniversary National 4-H Club Camp, let's review our week's activities. While you and I as delegates have been enjoying our program of tours, talks discussions and visits, some important work that affects us all has been going on behind the scenes. Our leaders have been in committee meetings, exchanging ideas and developing plans to better our 4-H program. Mr. Leon Clayton, of South Carolina, who is Chairman of the Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work, will tell us of the significance of their meetings.

CLAYTON:

As a parting thought from this, the 25th National 4-H Club Camp, I would like to share with you some of the experiences of your leaders. National 4-H Club Camp is much more than two top boys and two top girls coming from each State for a week of education and inspiration in our National capital. It is also the official annual meeting of State 4-H Club leaders and members of their staffs. These meetings provide a needed opportunity to exchange ideas, to build, and to strengthen the 4-H program in States and the Nation. We are more able to serve youth in helping to carry forward the whole Extension Service program. Through individual accomplishment, committee planning, and group effort, we have done much. For example, there has been opportunity at this Camp for us as leaders and you as members to work through 12 development and exploratory committees for an improved and stronger 4-H program. Some of you delegates have asked if the opinions which you young folks voiced in these meetings have any meaning. To the question, I answer, "By all means."

You will see the results in the coming year's club program and next year's camp. Members and leaders have always worked together to shape the 4-H program, and we heartily welcome your ideas, thinking, and wishes so we as your leaders can set the best possible future course. The satisfaction that gives meaning to our work as your Extension Service leaders and guides us to greater efforts is embodied in a letter recently received by a State 4-H staff member from a 10-year volunteer local 4-H Club leader. May I quote:

"You have meant so much to our young people. I myself have had much inspiration and guidance from contact with you. I did want to tell you this. We all love you for your untiring patience and service for our youth. No one could have done better."

Many of you here now are junior leaders. You give freely of your ideas and time. In the future, many of you will serve as local leaders, friends of 4-H, or Extension Service workers yourselves. Through service to 4-H, you have opportunity to serve without expectation of reward.



As was so ably expressed by a local leader on the former National Camp delegates' panel Monday afternoon, "Such service is freely given because of the love of 4-H Club work and what it has meant to us. You might say, it is paying the dividends that you attain during your 4-H membership experiences."

Your continued suggestions and enthusiastic interest in 4-H Club work, and your sharing with others what you've so richly experienced at National Club Camp will result in a 4-H Club program that will grow steadily stronger -- a program that will be favorably received by more and more young people throughout America and the world.

MASTER OF  
CEREMONIES:

For the coming few minutes, it will be our privilege to re-live some of the inspiration of our National 4-H Club Camp, The Flame That Lives. The summary will be presented by four delegates: Charles Peacock of Arkansas; Myron Rudy of Pennsylvania; Charlotte Salyer of Arizona; and Yvonne Schroeder of Nebraska.

(PAUSE)

How many remember hearing these words?

C. M. FERGUSON,  
ADMINISTRATOR

And so we now declare the Silver Anniversary 4-H Club Camp officially opened.

Yes, that was Administrator Ferguson speaking to us just a week ago tonight -- and here is the challenge he gave us:

FERGUSON:

Out of this whole process, you see, the thought I am trying to leave with you here is about the experience you have had in 4-H Club work and the experience other folks are going to have over the years. These are some of the things that you have learned. You have learned some of the principles of business, you have learned some of the principles of economics, you have learned some of the principles of biology, and you have learned some of the most important principles of living and getting along with folks.

FIRST BOY

For 25 progressive years, fortunate 4-H club members have drawn the flame of inspiration from National 4-H Club Camps such as this one now coming to a close. As we take part in the final candlelighting ceremony tonight, think of it as symbolizing our encampment. For here, national leaders have kindled our zeal, enthusiasm and understanding, that we may carry the flame that lives to our home communities, making the fires of 4-H Club work burn ever brighter. Long will we remember the words of General Lewis B. Hershey who told us:

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GENERAL LEWIS

B. HERSHEY:

The three words that I am going to say something about are willingness, confidence, and value. I want to say that I would like to see you with the willingness to accept the responsibilities of life, to be blamed for the things that have gone wrong. Don't follow merely because sometimes they cut off the leader's head secretly or otherwise. Have confidence, but find it in yourself, not in anybody else. And last of all let's get our values such that they will endure -- come water high or low, come wind, come storm, come whatever may -- that the things we cling to will still have value.

FIRST BOY:

One of us asked the General, "What should our durable values be based upon.

HERSHEY:

Well, first of all, I believe that I am going to use a dangerous word -- long-range selfishness. Now long-range selfishness is the kind of selfishness -- that means groups can live together and all can live. Obviously the individual isn't going to live if the group doesn't live, and yet the individual behaves about nine-tenths of the time as though the group didn't have to live. To see this, you don't have to do more than drive down the street. Even though the traffic was light this morning, I saw some people who were driving as though they were not interested in the group living. So, therefore, I would say the first thing you must set as a value is this thing of long-range selfishness, because if you have that, it will tend to sustain the group to which you belong, and obviously we are trying to make the groups larger and larger and ever larger. We haven't gained too much because we haven't quite got to the place where we have a whole family that is able to get along all the time. Now I mention one of the first values is this thing that would tend to make our present way of life, with modification, as always a thing likely to continue and expand. Is the thing that I am trying to do contributing to that end, or am I reaching into the candy bag, grabbing a handful, and running off in a corner to eat it -- and figuring on coming back to get some out of the bag?

FIRST GIRL:

By now we have lived together several days, become acquainted, formed fast friendships and gained much in knowledge and inspiration. We have met with our Senators and Congressmen, toured the Capitol and Beltsville, seen the embassies of many nations, heard the cry, "Play ball," and threshed out the topics presented to us in our own discussion groups. On a thrilling day that took us to the Naval Academy, we heard from an outstanding agricultural leader: Wheeler McMillen:



WHEELER  
McMILLEN

Across this broad land tonight 165,000,000 Americans will rest, well fed and in comfort. Their week's work has brought higher pay than in any other country because they have produced more. They do produce more than half of the world's manufactures and do more than a third of all the world's business. Food doesn't worry them - they know that the stores will be well stocked again when Monday comes and the restaurants will be open tomorrow. Our town and city neighbors can take the certainty of food for granted and thank heaven that they can. Tonight the cattle are grazing, growing fat in a million American pastures; the calves, the pigs, and the lambs are growing fast into meat; the wheat is ripening on millions of acres; the corn is growing in a million fields, hurrying to be knee-high by the 4th of July. In a little while the electric lights will be switched off in several million comfortable American farm homes. Fathers, mothers, and boys and girls will go to sleep knowing that tomorrow they will be free to worship as they choose, to speak without fear, and that the work they choose to do next week will reward them in some proportion to their effort.

So in this last minute we have together tonight let us glance back once again through the dim mists of 17 decades. Let us think reverently for a moment of those soldiers of the Revolution who gave us independence. Let us think with gratitude of those wise fathers of the Constitution who set up our structure of freedom. Let us be grateful that bold inventors and daring business leaders and millions of honest workers have so enriched our country. Let us think of the million of pioneer families whose toil built the farms of America, and whose own devotion to freedom has kept these farms to this day to be family farms. We can most easily describe the blessings of freedom, as I have done tonight, in material terms, such as food and automobiles or bathtubs and television sets. Yes, freedom has brought us wealth and well-being, but may we never forget that freedom makes us rich, too, in intangible values -- in the spiritual and the cultural. No one can measure the value of liberty of spirit and independence of mind - they are possessions of priceless worth. America is great because Americans are free. I know that you with all your clear heads, your pure hearts, your capable hands, and your hearty health will do your best to keep it free and to make it greater. Thank you.

SECOND  
BOY:

This freedom we so cherish has been dearly bought, as learned on Sunday at Arlington ..... (BAND MUSIC FEEDS IN STRONG) ..  
..... (AS MUSIC FADES, NARRATE OVER MUSIC:)  
Music was inspirational to us all. What a thrill to hear some of the great service bands from the Washington area; bands representing the United States Army, the United States Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps ..... (PAUSE) and, of course, a real warm spot in our heart was created for the Bolling Air Force Base Band, with a former 4-H Club member, Captain Harold Copenhaver, conducting. (BAND MUSIC UP FULL TO END)



(AFTER MUSIC) But our inspiration has come not alone from music. It has come from seeing the city that is a marker to our growth and greatness -- of coming to know more of the men and women who have worked to build our country. And who better characterized the spirit that has built America than our Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson?

SECRETARY  
EZRA TAFT  
BENSON:

I hope you will keep in mind what I consider the most basic thing of all in 4-H Club work and that is the building of character. Because if a man or woman doesn't have real character they can't possibly have much else in value. Character is not reputation. Reputation is what people think you are. Character is what you really are. Character is the one thing we make in this world and take with us into the next. So it is basic and fundamental. It isn't wealth or power or position that is so important. It's character. We hear some rather critical things said from time to time about the youth of today, our young men and women in America. One national magazine carried the statement recently that the young people of today are demanding harder and harder butter on softer and softer bread. I don't believe that applies to the young men and women on the farms of America, and in the rural communities. Someone said our young people aren't so bad, it's just that they have more critics than models. Well, I don't think that is true, either, of our rural young people, because they do have some very worthy models. They are blessed with good leadership. Generally speaking, they come from good homes, Christian homes, where the fundamental, basic, moral, and spiritual principles are taught. They have good examples, good models, in the persons of their fathers and mothers, as well as in their club leaders. I am very anxious that our young people, particularly in the 4-H Club movement, develop those traits of character and accept those basic concepts which have made America great. That they learn to stand on their own feet, and surely there is no program which encourages that more than 4-H Club work, which encourages responsibility and independence, self-initiative and thrift. I was talking along this line in a meeting up in Seattle a few years ago, and one person that was at the meeting sent me this little item -- you may have heard it. It is entitled "The Oyster and the Eagle," and it reads like this: When God made the oyster he guaranteed him absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house, a shell to protect him from his enemies. When hungry the oyster simply opens up his shell and the food rushes in. But when God made the eagle he said the sky is the limit. Go build your own house, and the eagle went out and built his house on the highest mountain crag where storms threaten him every day. For food he flies through miles of rain and snow and wind. The eagle, and not the oyster, is the emblem of America.

WELCOME:  
(BENSON)

I am very happy, too, to learn that there are some 300 campers of the past with their families here this morning. I greet you and welcome you, happy that you can come back for this Silver Anniversary reunion.

SECOND GIRL:

As time flew by all too quickly, we grew in understanding. Administrators from the Department of Agriculture joined us to discuss their work; we saw those among us who are new voters inducted into citizenship. But leaders who planned our time in Washington had not forgotten fun and relaxation, skillfully intermixed with inspiration in pageant and in person.

When we heard our President, we knew in our hearts that our 4-H program was good, strong and truly great:

PRESIDENT  
EISENHOWER:

And in this great and fast-changing world you are not only going to participate, you are going to be leaders on the farm and in the city. You are going to influence others. And you are learning today in the best possible way through these 4-H endeavors, these 4-H Clubs, how to do it well. I think the only real thought I want to leave with you is this: I congratulate you heartily -- on when you were born, what you have done, and what you are going to do. Thank you a lot and good luck.

MASTER OF  
CEREMONIES:

This has been our National Camp -- our responsibility and challenge is to carry this flame that lives to our clubs and communities, providing opportunity for others as it has been provided for us.





